

# **EXHIBIT 8**

**GRACE  
FAX**

Specialty Vermiculite

**Date** January 30, 2001**Number of pages including cover sheet** 3**TO:** Mr. Frank Buonaiuto  
Neutocrete**Phone** (860) 354-8500  
**Fax Phone** (860) 354-6501**FROM:** David G. Pickering  
W. R. Grace & Co.  
62 Whittemore Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02140**Phone** 617-498-4891  
**Fax Phone** 617-547-7663  
**email** david.g.pickering@grace.com**CC:****REMARKS:** ☐ Urgent ☒ For your review ☐ Reply ASAP ☐ Please Comment

Dear Frank,

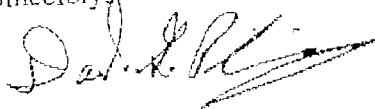
Attached is a copy of the field report I submitted regarding the problems that you have been seeing recently with cracking and bag weight variations. Included in the report is the plant manager's initial response regarding the bag weight variation. I am still waiting for a response regarding quality control on the mixing/blending operation. Once I get a response I will let you know.

For now, we will leave the formulation unchanged, and work on making sure that we are supplying you with a consistent product. If it appears that the current formula is not working as desired, then we can go back and work on adjusting the formula.

Also, as we discussed, if you have any installations or repairs that will be going on in the Massachusetts or Northern Connecticut area, please let me know, as I would like to get out to a job site to see what is going on.

You and John had also expressed interest in visiting our plant, with a potential time frame of early March. Is this still something that you are interested in? We can certainly arrange for a visit, but I would like to have some advance notice so that Eric and/or I can be down there with you.

Sincerely,

David G. Pickering  
Technical Sales RepresentativeConfidentiality Notice

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**GRACE****SPECIALTY VERMICULITE FIELD REPORT**

Revised 6/00

<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY ORIGINATOR</b>		<b>Date:</b> 01/26/2001																					
<b>Originator:</b>	D. Pickering																						
<b>Product:</b>	Neutocrete																						
<b>Company Name:</b>	Neutocrete																						
<b>Company Address:</b>	564 Danbury Rd New Milford, CT 06776																						
<b>Phone Number:</b>	860-354-8500																						
<b>Contact:</b>	Mr. Frank Buonaiuto																						
<b>Statement of Problem:</b>	<p>Seeing variation in bag weights. This is a weighed product that should be 40 lbs. They weighed 6 bags on 1 pallet and found the weights shown below. They will be weighing more bags in the future, and have asked them to pass on any information that they get to me. I will then forward it to the plant.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Bag</th> <th>Lot #</th> <th>Weight</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>K05A12</td> <td>30 lbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>K16A12</td> <td>40 lbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>K05411</td> <td>42 lbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>K05A11</td> <td>30 lbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>K05A11</td> <td>25 lbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>K05A11</td> <td>30 lbs</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Neutocrete is also experiencing cracking problems, and also seeing instances where the product (once put in place) is very weak and crumbly. This (along with the low weights) would seem to suggest that not enough cement is present in these bags.</p>		Bag	Lot #	Weight	1	K05A12	30 lbs	2	K16A12	40 lbs	3	K05411	42 lbs	4	K05A11	30 lbs	5	K05A11	25 lbs	6	K05A11	30 lbs
Bag	Lot #	Weight																					
1	K05A12	30 lbs																					
2	K16A12	40 lbs																					
3	K05411	42 lbs																					
4	K05A11	30 lbs																					
5	K05A11	25 lbs																					
6	K05A11	30 lbs																					
<b>Lot Numbers:</b>																							
<b># of Units Affected:</b>		<b>Grace Plant of Origin:</b> Kearney																					
<b>Non-Standard Conditions (If Any):</b>																							
<b>Customer Expectations (If Any):</b>	Bags should contain 40 pounds of material with proper cement and vermiculite content.																						
<b>Originators Recommended Action:</b>	Check blending operation to make sure proper formula is being used, and that the mixing procedure is being carried out correctly to produce a uniform product. Make sure that the bag weights are within specifications.																						

<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY FIELD REPORT ADMINISTRATOR</b>			
<b>Distribution and Action:</b>			
Position	Name	Action	FYI
Originator	D. Pickering		X
General Manager	Barlett		X
Sales & Marketing Manager	Moeller		X
Director of Manufacturing	Anderson		X
Mine Manager	Munyan		X
Mill Manager	Banning		
Kearney Plant Manager	Mercer	See David's recommendations above. Likely cause for the problems? Preventable? (by February 5 <sup>th</sup> )	
Pompano Plant Manager	Powling		X
Ajax Plant Manager	Blackmore		X
Edmonton Plant Manager	Iwoniak		X
Winnipeg Plant Manager	Znack		X
Phoenix Plant Manager	Perez		

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Microlite Plant Manager	Killian		X
Other			

Initial Review/Action Requested:

Estimated Time to Complete Initial Review/Action 2 weeks

TO BE COMPLETED BY FIELD REPORT ADMINISTRATOR

**Action Investigator Comments:** Information per Ron Mercer:

This product is packaged on a valve-pack line. The system incorporates a scale that automatically shuts down the packer when the package reaches a target weight. One bag from each pallet is weighed on a second scale to provide a cross check on the automatic weight system. This data does not indicate any error in the weigh system. Additionally, during the shipping process each pallet is weighed as it is loaded. The data from the load in question is listed in the following table.

Lot Number	Pallet Number	Gross Weight	Calculated Average Bag Weight With 50 Pound Pallet
K05A11	13	2623	42.9
K08A12	11	2520	41.2
K05A11	10	2509	41.0
K05A11	11	2605	42.6
K08A12	2	2592	42.4
K05A11	12	2438	39.8
K05A01	4	2564	41.9
K08A12	12	2529	41.3
K08A12	14	2567	42.0
K05A01	9	2567	42.0
K05A01	8	2521	41.2
K05A01	6	2576	42.1
K05A01	7	2543	41.6
K09A13	10	2597	42.5
K09A13	9	2575	42.1
K09A11	4	2508	41.0

This data indicates one pallet may have been slightly below the 40 to 44 pound product weight limit. However, it may just be a pallet that weighed less than the average 50 pounds. Either way, nothing indicates bag weights in the 25 to 30 pound range that the customer is reporting.

To increase the resolution of my data and possibly provide some answer to this problem, I will begin crosschecking weights on each 10th bag. This will give me 6 crosschecks per pallet.

Conclusion:

Problem Source	Comments
Manufacturing Execution	
Raw Material QC	
R&D/Product Design	
Field or Application Related	
Marketing	
None	
In-Conclusive	
Other	